

Cultural Resources Program Activity and Coordination with Endangered Species Management

Objectives

THE CULTURAL RESOURCE PROGRAM (CRP) supports the Endangered Species Branch (ESB) in their management goal of protection and enhancement of existing populations and associated habitat of threatened and endangered species on the installation through cultural resource surveys. CRP in order to systematically identify, document, and mitigate any adverse impacts to cultural properties that may be impacted by ESB projects, routinely implements archeological reconnaissance, survey, and site clearance. Project review procedures are undertaken in order to assure that any known historic or archeological properties subject to review under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act will not be adversely affected by ESB projects. Results of any archeological investigations undertaken by the CRP as part of the review of or in support of ESB projects are reported annually to the SHPO pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation's Regulations for Compliance with Section 106 codified at 36CFR Part 800.

Procedures for Implementation

The ESB {phone number (910) 396-2544} is responsible for management of all threatened and endangered species for Fort Bragg, including twenty

two special concern plant species, six special concern animal species, and five federally recognized endangered species: red-cockaded woodpecker (*Picoides borealis*), Saint Frances' satyr (*Neonympha michelli francisci*), American chaffseed (*schwalbea americana*), Michaux's sumac (*Rhus michauxii*), and rough leaved loose strife (*Lysimachia asperulaefolia*). ESB has divided the installation into one hundred four compartments of land or habitat management areas (HMA's). The Habitat Management Working Group (HMWG) creates a forecasted prioritized list of approximately ten HMA's each fiscal year (FY) to undergo prescriptions. Each FY the HMWG forwards the prioritized list to the CRP for integration into the planned cultural resource surveys, to the extent feasible. If the CRP has surveyed the HMA, the UTM coordinates of sensitive archeological sites will be provided to the ESB. If a cultural resources survey has not been conducted, ESB projects will not be conducted until the cultural resource survey of the HMA's are completed and sensitive cultural resource sites identified and protected. Upon completion of HMA cultural resource surveys the CRP will provide the ESB a list of UTM's for sensitive cultural resource sites as well as survey area boundaries for any HMA's that were not completely surveyed for cultural resource sites. Protected archeological sites will be identified on the ground by placement of signs along site boundaries. Depending on the size and urgency of the project, cultural resource surveys will be conducted by CRP personnel or through contracted services by outside agencies.